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ABSTRACT

Topics summarized in this annual report of the Library Association for 1973 include the advent of the British Library; effects of local government reorganization upon public libraries and their staffs; possible introduction of a public lending right; threat of VAT on books and journals, and effects on the Open University libraries; increased book prices; future of the Library Association's qualifications; emergence of the Commonwealth Library Association; research and development relating to reading for the visually handicapped, non-book media cataloging rules, aids for slow learners, duties of library professionals and non-professionals, and archive and record management; general review of the Library and Information Bureau; and service and salary conditions in public, university, college, school and special libraries. A list of new publications by the Association and brief reports by representatives on joint committees and other organizations are also provided. (Author/MBR)

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THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
FOUNDED 1877 INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1898

Annual Report

of the Council of the Association for the year ending 31st December, 1973 Presented at the annual meeting in London 1974

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

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TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC) AND USERS OF THE ERIC SYSTEM."

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
7 RIDGMOUNT STREET LONDON WC1E 7AE

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Introduction by the President

It is the prerogative of the President to introduce the Annual Report of the Library Association, and it is a pleasant duty to do this in a year when there has been so much progress in the profession, and so much to report by the Council.

Internationally speaking, the year began well with the publication of the Unesco Public Library Manifesto, and later the publication of the revised IFLA Standards for Public Libraries took place. Both documents owed much to the initiative of British librarians who were representing the Library Association on various IFLA committees. Another international event was, of course, the British entry into the Common Market, and this caused your Council to study problems which culminated in its statement published in the RECORD for March 1973, under the heading "Library Qualifications in the European Communities".

The 1973 Annual General Meeting agreed to the higher subscriptions made necessary by inflation, and, while the Council has no intention of indulging in a spending spree, I hope that one of its first acts will be to offer members a fuller and more comprehensive regular journal. The Working Party on Association Services continued to hold regular meetings and by the time this is in print its further recommendations will not only have been published, but also be under active discussion by members. It will be realized that the Working Party's intentions are to develop the work of the Association for the benefit of all members, not forgetting minorities, but to do this with a due regard for good housekeeping.

I can vouch for the fact that your Council, its standing committees, sub-committees and working parties, have had a busy year, and have tried to keep ahead of the rapidly changing scene in the evolution of libraries. The advent of the British Library, the effects of local government re-organization upon public libraries and their staffs, the continued possibility of the introduction of a public lending right, the threat of VAT on books and journals, the effects on libraries of the Open University, the alarming

increases in book prices, the future of the Library Association's qualifications, the emergence of the Commonwealth Library Association—all these, and many more, are topics which your Council has considered and about which you will find more information in succeeding pages.

One of the most encouraging aspects of our Association is the continued buoyancy of the membership figures. From 17 331 in 1969, it rose to 18 285 in 1970, to 19 750 in 1971, to 21 002 in 1972 and last year it again rose to 21 879, the highest total ever.

Another encouraging factor is the dedicated work which is done for the Association by members acting as officers or who serve on the committees of the various Branches, Groups and Sections. As President, I have seen for myself a good deal of this work. Without it, the Library Association would not be the thriving body which it is.

I commend the following pages to all members as a record of solid progress, and of the multifarious activities which the Council, its committees, and many individual members have undertaken on behalf of the Library Association.

K. C. HARRISON

Honorary Vice-Presidents

The Council nominated as Honorary Vice-Presidents of the Association:

Mrs J. Robinson, Director of the Jamaica Library Service.
Dr H. Liebaers, President of the International Federation of Library Associations.

Honorary Fellows

In recognition of their distinguished service in promoting the objects of the Association, the following persons were elected Honorary Fellows:

Mr H. D. Barry
Dr E. D. Jones
Professor W. B. Paton

Adult Education

The Council submitted detailed comments to the Department of Education and Science on the Report of the Committee on Adult Education. These stressed, *inter alia*, the importance of providing adequate funds for library services to adult education students; asked for the appointment of a separate Working Party to investigate the best machinery for providing multiple copies of books to adult education classes; and urged that librarianship should be adequately represented on the proposed Local Development Councils and their Committees.

Ordnance Survey

Representations were made to the Department of the Environment against suggestions that there should be considerable curtailment of the publications issued by the Ordnance Survey. In particular, the Council stressed the value of the 1 : 25 000 scale maps, which it was said might be discontinued.

The Ordnance Survey finally decided to continue publication of the 1 : 25 000 series. At the request of the Association it also agreed to add a public librarian to its Annual Map Users Conference, on which national and university librarians were already represented.

Cinematograph and Indecent Displays Bill

In view of the wide ranging effect of the provisions of the Cinematograph and Indecent Displays Bill in relation to indecent displays, attempts were made to secure some protection for librarians who might, with no guilty intent, risk prosecution as a result of displays of book covers in their libraries. The point was raised, at the Association's instance, during the parliamentary debates on

the Bill, and an amendment was moved aimed at exempting publicly-maintained libraries from this part of the Bill's provisions. This amendment was defeated on a division.

The Council then made further representations to the Government, asking for some restriction on the right of private persons to initiate prosecutions for indecent displays.

VAT on Books

The Library Association consulted with the National Book League and other Associations interested in books as to the best way to resist any proposal to impose VAT on books as part of the steps to harmonize taxes between member countries of the European Community. In reply to questions in Parliament, the Government said that it had no intention of imposing VAT on books and periodicals. The Associations interested agreed that they should discuss this matter with their counterpart Associations in the other member countries of the Community, and attempt to influence their national policy in this matter towards securing zero-rating for books and periodicals in those countries too.

The British Library

A conference convened by the Library Association and other bodies in November 1972, to discuss the services provided by the British Library, passed a resolution urging that staffing policy for the British Library should aim at increasing mobility of staff between the British Library and other libraries in order to increase the effectiveness of the British Library services and to diffuse the British Library's expertise and knowledge through other libraries in the country.

The Council fully endorsed this resolution and forwarded it to the Organizing Committee for the British Library. The Department of Education and Science were also asked for an assurance that academic, industrial and public librarians would be represented both on the British Library Board and on its advisory committees.

The Organizing Committee for the British Library replied saying that the views which they held on staffing followed closely the suggestions made by the Association and other bodies. The Department of Education and Science undertook that the working relationships which the British Library would need to have with other kinds of library would be borne in mind when appointments were made to the Board and its advisory committees.

Library Qualifications in the European Community

In January the Council received from the Department of Education and Science two draft directives prepared by the European Communities Council proposing transitional measures to be adopted pending mutual recognition of diplomas,

certificates and other formal qualifications to enable nationals of member countries to establish themselves or to practise anywhere in the European Community. Following consideration of the proposals, the Council adopted a statement at its meeting in February and this was published, together with the essence of the proposed transitional measures, in the March issue of the LA RECORD. The Council also offered the services of the Association as the competent professional body for librarianship in the UK in future negotiations on the harmonization of professional library qualifications within the European Community.

International Federation of Library Associations

The Annual Council Meeting of the International Federation of Library Associations was held in Grenoble in August. The Association was represented by its official delegate, the Honorary Officers and the Chairmen of certain standing committees. A report from the Association's official delegate appears in the second part of this report.

The Association nominated Professor P. Havard-Williams for re-election as a Vice-President of IFLA, and he was re-elected.

Internships and Exchanges

Six applications for internships were received during 1973, and four applicants were placed in public libraries—one librarian from each of the following countries: Denmark, Greece, Israel and Turkey.

National Book Week

The National Book Committee asked the opinion of its member organizations on the future of National Book Week. The Council reaffirmed the decision which it had previously taken, that National Book Week should be continued so long as support from libraries on the past scale was forthcoming; but that the central organization of the event required considerably greater resources than it had had in the past; and that in future years the Week should be staged only when funds were available centrally to make a real impact at national level.

Working Party on Association Services

The Working Party on Association Services held a number of meetings at which it considered the views expressed by Branches and Groups on its first report. It convened a meeting of representatives from all Branches and Groups in June,

and it subsequently interviewed separately representatives from a number of Branches and Groups.

In October, the working party presented a second report to the Council in which it made the following recommendations:

(a) that the Library Association should deposit its library with the British Library with effect from 1 April 1974, when the British Library would assume financial responsibility for its staffing and maintenance;

(b) that the Council should approve in principle the moving of part of headquarters staff out of central London and letting the accommodation thus vacated;

(c) that a firm of management consultants should review the staff and establishment of the Association's headquarters;

(d) that the number of meetings of the Library Association's Council should be reduced from four to three each year.

The Council accepted recommendations (a), (b) and (c), but referred back recommendation (d) for further consideration by the working party.

The working party will report some time in 1974 upon the future organization of Branches and Groups, the constitution of the Council and its standing committees, and a number of other matters still outstanding.

Access to Minutes of Branches

The Yorkshire Branch Committee proposed that the byelaws of the Association should be amended so as to incorporate a provision giving all members of the Association access to the minutes of Branches.

The Council decided that this was a matter which should be left to the discretion of Branch Committees.

Sound-Recordings Group

The Council approved a proposal from the Sound-Recordings Group to change its title to the Audio-Visual Group.

Dispute over Building

The Council reported in 1972 that the claim by contractors over the new building for the Library Association and National Central Library had been settled by the payment of £22 000, and that the Association's share of this amount, and of the additional costs, amounted to £11 000. The Council also reported that the University of London had been asked to meet the cost of this claim. During 1973, the University of London, after consultation with the University Grants Committee, made an *ex gratia* payment which reduced the liability of the Association to just over £8000.

Spectators at Council Meetings

It was decided to provide a number of seats in the Council Chamber for spectators who wish to attend meetings of the Council.

Awards

The Carnegie Medal was awarded to Richard Adams for his book *Watership down* (Rex Collings).

The Kate Greenaway Medal was awarded to Krystyna Turska for her illustrations to *The woodcutter's duck* (Hamish Hamilton).

The Besterman Medal for an outstanding bibliography or guide to the literature was awarded to G. H. Martin and Sylvia McIntyre for *A bibliography of British and Irish municipal history*, Volume I: General works. (Leicester University Press.) The *Index to British military costume prints, 1500-1914*, compiled by the Army Museums Ogilby Trust (published by the Trust), was commended.

The McColvin Medal for an outstanding reference book was awarded to *The music yearbook: a survey and directory with statistics and reference articles for 1972/73;* edited by Arthur Jacobs (Macmillan). Daphne Foskett's *A dictionary of British miniature painters* (Faber and Faber) was commended.

The Robinson Medal for invention in library technology or administration was awarded to the University of Lancaster Library Research Unit for simulation-games in education for library management. The runner-up for the Award was Shropshire County Library for a low-cost automated total stock control and issue system using a basic data collection machine.

Sir Evelyn Wrench Travelling Fellowship

The successful candidate for 1973 was Mr David Horn, MA, ALA, of the University of Exeter Library. His month's visit to the USA was to study the holdings of sound recordings of American music in US libraries and archives to assist in the acquisition of a good archive of American music of all styles at Exeter University.

Membership of the Association

During the year 1 941 (1 989) members were elected or reinstated, 1 065 (1 086) were removed through death, resignation or non-payment of subscriptions. The net increase was therefore 876 (903). The membership at 31 December 1973 was as follows:

	Personal	*Affiliated*	*Total*
Ordinary ..	18 732	773	19 505
Honorary ..	26	—	26
Corresponding	1 912	436	2 348
	20 670	1 209	21 879

Register of Chartered Librarians

In 1973 there were 32 members entered on the Register as Fellows (26 male and 6 female). There were 1220 members registered as Associates (330 male and 890 female). From academic libraries there were 13 Fellows and 321 Associates, from public libraries there were 11 Fellows and 696 Associates. Eight of the Fellows and 483 of the Associates registered were graduates. The median age for registering as an Associate was 23 years.

68·5 per cent of the Associates had attended full-time courses at one of the local authority colleges, while 22·5 per cent had attended one of the approved university diploma or degree courses.

	Registrations and reinstatements	*Resignations, deaths, etc.*	*Trans. to FLA*	*Totals 1.1.73*	*Totals 31.12.73*
Associates ..	1 284	278	30	10 974	11 950
Fellows	34	68	—	2 014	1 980
Total Chartered Librarians ..	1 318	346	30	12 988	13 930

Research and Development

Research Publications

The following title was issued in the Association's Research Publications series:

12: *U.K. catalogue use study: a report* (A. Maltby).

Research Grants

The following new research grants were awarded:

(i) to the Department of Librarianship, Leeds Polytechnic, in support of research work on an analysis of demand as an aid to systematic stock provision in the public library;

(ii) to the Department of Library and Information Studies, Liverpool Polytechnic, to carry out an enquiry leading to the publication of a basic guide to insurance in libraries.

Dewey Decimal Classification

The Sub-Committee's Chairman, who represents British users on the Decimal Classification Editorial Policy Committee, was invited to extend his term of office for a further six years. The Committee is a joint committee of the American Library Association and the Lake Placid Club Education Foundation (the parent body of the Forest Press, the publishers of Dewey). Two meetings of the Editorial Policy Committee were held in Washington, one in April and the other in November.

The Area Tables for Great Britain were revised to take account of the changes in local government administrative boundaries. Greater provision was made

than at present exists in the 18th Edition of Dewey for the chief towns and cities of the British Isles. The major natural features were provided for in the extended tables.

It is expected that these tables for Great Britain will be made available by the Forest Press as supplementary information before the appearance of the 19th Edition of the classification.

Particular areas of the 19th Edition draft schedules were reviewed and a Working Party was set up to investigate the feasibility of a "phoenix" schedule for music for the 19th Edition of DC.

Reading for the Visually Handicapped

The Association and the National Association for the Education of the Partially Sighted held a one-day conference on the "Reading needs of the hard of seeing" at the Royal Commonwealth Society in June. The conference, attended by 94, was the third of a series intended to enable those who design, produce and disseminate print for the visually handicapped reader to communicate with each other. Among the topics discussed were being visually handicapped, the present and future of book provision and the education of the visually handicapped.

A leaflet on *Reading for the visually handicapped* was prepared by the Sub-Committee and circulated experimentally to every public library in the country in September. It not only gave details of all the publishers of large-print books but also referred to talking books and newspapers, and detailed many reading aids which are used to help the handicapped handle a book. A revised edition of the leaflet is now in preparation.

Media Cataloguing Rules

Non-book materials cataloguing rules: an integrated code of practice and draft revision of the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules (*British text*), Part III, prepared by the Media Cataloguing Rules Committee, was published in July by the National Council for Educational Technology, jointly with the Association. The publication represented the first authoritative attempt in the United Kingdom to formulate integrated rules for the catalogue description of non-book materials (i.e. graphics, film, recorded sound) currently in use.

Committee of Librarians and Statisticians

A one-day course on the "Communication network: what every economic statistician should know about information services and libraries" was held in London in May. The course was intended to help economic statisticians to make better and more efficient use of the publications and libraries they use in their everyday work.

The Committee made suggestions at the invitation of the Open University on the planning of a post-experience course on statistical sources.

Cataloguing Rules Revision

A representative of the Association attended meetings in Las Vegas in June with the American Library Association Descriptive Cataloguing Committee, the Canadian Library Association Committee on Revision of AACR, and the Library of Congress.

A revised edition of Chapter 6: Separately published monographs and other non-serial publications of AACR (British text), to incorporate the provisions of the International Standard Bibliographic Description, is being prepared for publication.

Professional and Non-Professional Duties in Libraries

The Working Party on Professional and Non-Professional Duties in Libraries completed the drafting of a new edition of *Professional and non-professional duties in libraries: a descriptive list*. This is likely to go to press early in 1974.

Books for Slow Learners

The *ad hoc* advisory committee to look into the possibility of extending the use of the Ulverscroft series in the teaching of English as a foreign language, and in the teaching of adult illiterates and semi-literates, was formally constituted as the Association's Sub-Committee on Books for Slow Learners.

The sub-committee see their function as being to consider the provision and dissemination of printed materials for those who have difficulty in learning to read.

The first titles in the Trigger books for backward readers, produced by the Ulverscroft Foundation in conjunction with the Association and Birmingham Public Libraries, were published during the year.

International Library Interlending

In March over 30 delegates from 20 Western European countries attended a five-day seminar at Banbury on library interlending, which was organized by the Association on behalf of the British Council and in association with SCONUL.

The subjects discussed included centralized and decentralized systems for loan provision; national methods of organizing and administering loan services; the use of photocopies in lieu of loans; problems of union catalogues; and the difficulties of obtaining various categories of material.

A number of resolutions were produced covering such topics as standard forms; national centres for interlending; methods of pre-payment; customs difficulties; use of Telex; statistics and the responsibility of the various countries to provide their own native publications for interlending. These resolutions were sent forward to IFLA and other bodies.

Local Authority Records

In February, the Association issued a statement in reply to a document issued by the Society of Archivists on local authority archive and records management services in metropolitan areas. The statement was circulated to the Chief Librarians and Clerks of all public library authorities in England and Wales, the local authority associations and appropriate Government departments.

In June, the Association sent comments to the Department of the Environment on the *Local Government Act 1962: local authority records consultation paper*. It was gratifying to note that the content of this paper, where affecting libraries, was in full accord with the Association's previous statements of policy on this matter.

Library and Information Bureau

Future of Library

The discussions with other bodies, mentioned in last year's report, continued with a view to securing adequate financial support for the continuance of the library. By the end of the year initial negotiations with the British Library had been completed, whereby the British Library will accept the Library on deposit and undertake to maintain services to members at not less than their present level. The British Library will purchase stock, pay staff and rent the existing accommodation from The Library Association so that services can continue without interruption. Association staff who wish to may be transferred to the British Library with no detriment to their salaries, conditions of service or prospects. For the foreseeable future the Library will remain at 7 Ridgmount Street, but would move when accommodation in a new central London British Library building is available. It is envisaged that The Library Association library will form the nucleus of the British Library's departmental library on librarianship and information science. It will be developed both as a British Library staff library and as part of the national resource in its subject. The new administration will begin on 1 April 1974.

Future of the Information Bureau

It was decided by the Association Working Party on Services that the information function of the Library Information Bureau should in a large measure be retained in the hands of the Association. Bibliographical enquiries will be answered by the Library, but enquiries of a more direct factual nature will be handled by an information unit. Such subjects as library equipment, library buildings, data on professional meetings, and the type of information that has been gathered in recent years by surveys of various kinds of library service undertaken by the information bureau, will continue to be the responsibility of the Association.

General Review

The year 1973 was conducted on a slightly reduced budget for materials in view of the deficit on the Association's current account, but fortunately the carrying forward of a larger surplus than anticipated on the *Library and information bulletin* for 1972 prevented any real reduction in the range of titles added to stock. However, the continuance of a financial stringency which has affected the department for some years resulted in the year's work being rather short on new developments. Such statistics as it has been possible to gather confirm that for the last three or four years the output of the department has reached a plateau from which it is impossible to rise any higher without further resources of cash or staff. The Council concluded that demands for better services, never far below the surface, and frequently expressed by members, can be met only by such arrangements as have been made with the British Library.

Book Stock and Loans

Additions to stock during the year numbered 1896 (2498 in 1972) of which 411 were extra copies (839 in 1972).

Loan statistics are nearly static. Issues of books and pamphlets are slightly down on 1972's record figure (14 662) at 13 765, though periodical parts are

up to 5107 (4148 in 1972). The totalling of the loan of all other items brings the figure again to a record level of 22 683 (21 972 in 1972). Several individual variations have contributed to this overall result. Trade literature loans, for example, have been deliberately cut owing to the difficulty of securing adequate quantities of up-to-date brochures from manufacturers, and attention has been devoted instead to giving enquirers more direct information either by telephone or by the distribution of lists of firms in broad categories of equipment interest. By contrast the loan of annual reports of libraries and slides has increased considerably.

Non-book Materials

Three films were acquired during the year: two Open University introductions to library facilities for students and an older American film donated by a member. Two of these acquisitions were too late in the year to increase the volume of borrowing, but, in spite of the withdrawal of both reels of *You and your library* because of wear, more than 100 loans were again recorded of the handful of titles. The photographic slide collection grew steadily to about 1750 items, and a catalogue was prepared and published in the *Library and information bulletin*. There was considerable pressure on the collection of black and white photographic prints, and stocks were inadequate to supply all requests for careers conventions and exhibitions.

Salaries and Conditions of Service

Public Libraries

Despite repeated requests to Nalgo for a further meeting of the NJC Grading Committee to resume negotiations on the Association's claim, no meeting was held before the end of 1972. A letter of protest was sent to Nalgo and it was decided in January to write to Chief Librarians informing them of the unsatisfactory situation and inviting those members of their staffs who were members of Nalgo to seek to put a motion on the agenda of the Nalgo Conference instructing the National Executive Council to give priority to the outstanding claim for library staff. Six such motions appeared on the conference agenda. Five were withdrawn, but the following, moved by the Durham County Branch, was carried:

> *Having regard to the fact that the motion carried at Eastbourne in 1967, instructing the National Executive Council to improve the librarians' scale has not been successful and that no agreement was reached at two meetings of the NJC Grading Committee in June 1972 on a claim for a revised national basic grading at the level of AP 4 for posts requiring qualified librarians, the National Local Government Committee therefore be instructed to give priority to the present claim for librarians which is before the Grading Committee.*

When the Grading Committee met in March, the Employers said they remained unconvinced of the need for any change in the existing grading decision and consequently were unable to offer any increase. After further discussion they

agreed that the Joint Secretaries should examine and report on changes in the duties and responsibilities of posts requiring Chartered Librarians. Stage two of the Government's counter-inflation policy effectively prevented further negotiation, and there was no further meeting of the NJC Grading Committee until November. Despite the increase in responsibilities of Chartered Librarians which was then demonstrated by the Staff Side, the Employers still declined to make any improvement in grading. Instead they offered to undertake jointly with the Staff Side a job evaluation of professional posts at the level of those covered by the claim. After consultation, the Staff Side accepted this proposal on the understanding that the formula for assessing the value of professional library qualifications would not be that accepted for the NJC job evaluation scheme, but would be jointly agreed after consultation, and that the evaluation of the posts should include comparable posts outside local government. The Employers accepted these conditions and it was agreed that the job evaluation should be undertaken as speedily as possible.

In Northern Ireland, following a claim on behalf of senior staff including County and Deputy County Librarians, the Joint Advisory Board approved a 10 per cent increase in salary from 1 April to 30 September 1973, to cover the period of deferment of local government reorganization in the province. When Ministry of Education sanction for the increases to County Librarians and their Deputies had not been received by 1 October, strong representations were made to the Ministry protesting against the delay.

Following a review of the NJC enhanced payments scheme for weekend working as applied to library staff, Nalgo was requested to negotiate enhanced payments for work in libraries before noon on Saturdays. This was accepted both by Nalgo and the Staff Side, and the Association was informed that the Staff Side intended to negotiate payment of enhanced rates for all periods worked outside normal office hours, but that these negotiations could not be undertaken until the Government's counter-inflation policy permitted. A further proposal by the Council to extend the enhanced payments scheme to staff above the level of Grade AP 3 was pre-empted by the success of a motion in similar terms at the Nalgo Conference in June.

In November, the NJC Executive Committee agreed a salary structure for Chief Officers within the purview of the National Joint Council. During the negotiations the Council was able to indicate to the Staff Side the appropriate levels of salary for those Chief Librarians who are Chief Officers, to ensure that the new scales would be applied to them fairly.

Following agreement within the Scottish Joint Council in 1972 for the payment of shift allowance to library staff who worked an eleven-hour "spread", the Council urged Nalgo and the Staff Side of the NJC to persuade the Employers' Side to make a similar agreement for staffs in England and Wales. This was adopted by the Staff Side but negotiations were deferred until permitted by the counter-inflation policy.

University Libraries

During the year, help was requested by three university Librarians to assist them in their negotiations on salaries/conditions of service for their staffs. Advice has also been given to assistant librarians in three universities. In the case of one advertised post for an assistant librarian, members were advised to

withdraw their applications. As a result, interviews were not held and at the end of the year the matter was before the Industrial Arbitration Board.

Advice has also been given to members of the non-academic library staff of universities. Information on the implementation of the NJC enhanced payment scheme for weekend working was supplied to a member of the junior library staff of a university, which resulted in the adoption of enhanced payments for all junior library staff within the university in question.

Following Nalgo's proposals for the establishment of a national service conditions committee and associated machinery for its members, the Association promised its co-operation on behalf of members of the non-academic library staff of universities.

College of Education Libraries

The Council continued to keep under surveillance advertisements for posts in college of education libraries. Representations were made to four colleges offering salaries or conditions of service which were regarded as inadequate or unsuitable by the Association.

The Council supported six librarians in their negotiations for an increase of salary either for themselves or for members of their staff. Advice was also given to six librarians and two college authorities on salaries and conditions of service.

School Library Resource Centres

A census of qualified librarians in schools has been carried out. Some information on salaries was given which may lead to the preparation of a recommended salary scale for school librarians. A general summary has been supplied to the Library Advisory Council (England) and will be published in the LA RECORD early in 1974.

Advice was given to four school librarians who were seeking an improvement in salaries/conditions of service. Advice was also sought by heads of schools. Representations were made to two employers who advertised posts at salaries or with conditions which were regarded as inadequate or unsuitable by the Association.

Special Libraries

As in previous years, the Association has continued to keep a check on salaries and conditions of service in advertisements for special library posts. It still remains necessary to impress upon employers the need for qualified librarians, and during the year general representations have been made to 102 employers. Advertisements for publication in *Liaison* have been subjected to scrutiny, and those that have not met the Library Association's criteria have been refused publication.

A pleasing feature of the year has been an increase in the number of special librarians seeking assistance with their own salary claims. Seven detailed cases were prepared for presentation to employers.

Health and Welfare Libraries

The Council continued to investigate the need for a uniform grading of staff for hospital library duties in all sectors of the National Health Service. Pre-

liminary investigations indicated that not enough information about the numbers and status of librarians in the National Health Service was available for Nalgo to be asked to negotiate a national grading prescription. Steps have therefore been taken to assemble the necessary information to open negotiations by means of a survey in two stages. The first stage, at Hospital Management Committee level—the identification and location of librarians—has been completed, and by the end of 1973 the second stage—information about their salaries and gradings—was in preparation.

Meanwhile, a close watch has been maintained on advertisements for appointments in this sector of librarianship, and no opportunity has been lost to bring to the attention of employers the recommendations of the Department of Health and Social Security.

Colleges of Technology and Further Education, including Polytechnics

Surveillance has continued on advertised salaries and conditions of service for appointments. Minor points have been raised with fourteen Polytechnics and Colleges. Thirteen further cases have been the subject of detailed correspondence.

Public Libraries

Local Government Reorganization (England and Wales)

When it was learned that the memorandum by the Department of Education and Science on consultation arrangements, which was expected in December 1972, would be delayed for some time, the Council issued a letter of guidance to Chief Librarians. The letter offered advice on the establishment of effective joint consultation procedures and the planning of the new public library services which would emerge from reorganization. The Council also reviewed its policy on management structures in the light of the Bains Report, and in February issued a statement to Clerks of library authorities and Secretaries of Joint Planning Committees. The statement stressed the importance of the Chief Librarian being a Chief Officer with direct access to the committee responsible for libraries. It is gratifying to report that, when the structures of the new library departments became known later in the year, the great majority were seen to follow the pattern recommended by the Association.

The Association was one of the bodies consulted by the Department of the Environment on proposed legislation and procedures for implementing the Local Government Act, 1972. One of the most important of these was the proposed statutory instrument under Section 260 for the early retirement of Chief Officers. The original draft excluded the majority of Chief Librarians and their Deputies. Following strenuous negotiation with the Department, the terms of the draft Regulations were changed to enable considerably more Chief Librarians and their Deputies to become eligible for early retirement on the same terms as the designated Chief Officers. Members were kept informed of these developments both by letter and by announcements in *Liaison*. The Regulations (S.I. 1230/1973) were published in August.

As a result of urgent requests from many members for advice on the preparation of staff establishments for the new library authorities, a confidential memorandum was prepared and issued to all Chief Librarians.

At the time of writing, reports from the new authorities indicated that, except for six counties and eight metropolitan districts, appointments of new Chief Librarians had been made, and in some cases Deputies and third and fourth tier officers had also been appointed.

Local Government Reorganization (Scotland)
During the passage of the Local Government (Scotland) Bill, efforts were made at every stage in both Houses to obtain amendments which would bring the Bill into line with the Act for England and Wales. The President of the Scottish Library Association led a deputation to the House of Commons in April to meet the members of the Conservative and Labour Groups serving on Scottish Standing Committee. Amendments were moved at both the Committee and Report Stages in the Commons, but were unsuccessful. In the Lords, Lady Elliot was also unsuccessful with the amendment she moved during the Report Stage in October. The Scottish Library Association is now considering the best way for the mixed types of new Scottish library authority to organize the future public library service.

Local Government Reorganization (N. Ireland)
Because of the political situation, reorganization was deferred from 1 April to 1 October. On this latter date, the public library service became the responsibility of the Ministry of Education whose powers are exercised through five new Education and Library Boards—for Belfast, North-East, West, South and South-East areas.

Information Services for the New Authorities
Observations on the Bains Committee's recommendations on "the collection and dissemination of information within authorities and to outside bodies and the general public", prepared by the Reference, Special and Information Section, were adopted by the Council in April. Copies were sent to Secretaries of Joint Planning Committees, all Chief Librarians, the Department of Education and Science and the Department of the Environment. The statement, which contained proposals for information services based on the new public libraries, aroused considerable interest and requests for further details. It was decided to hold two seminars early in 1974—one for Chief Executive Officers and one for Chief Librarians and their reference and information staff. At the end of the year, arrangements had been completed for a one-day seminar in London for Chief Executive Officers on 3 January 1974, and plans were being made for a two-day seminar for Librarians in March or April.

Library Assistants' Certificate
The Council's request to Nalgo last year to negotiate two increments in salary for non-professional staff who obtain the Certificate was rejected in April. Nalgo explained that it would not be equitable to negotiate this for library staff without negotiating also on behalf of the many other classes of officer in a similar position, and that it would be impracticable, especially during the Government's counter-inflation control, to undertake such negotiations successfully. As an alternative, Nalgo agreed to request the Employers' Secretary of the NJC to circulate a statement to all library authorities drawing their attention

to the Certificate and also to the appropriate paragraph of the *Scheme of conditions of service* relating to the payment of additional increments.

Staffing

A staff establishment and grading census was held in April. Because of local government reorganization this census was kept to a minimum, and no details of branch, district, departmental or specialist posts were asked for. The results of the survey were published in the November issue of the *Library Association Record*. They showed an increase of 634 in the total number of professional posts during the two-year period since the 1971 census. Of the total of 7938 professional posts, only 5867 were occupied by Chartered Librarians; 1725 were occupied by unqualified or part-qualified staff and 346 were vacant. Wastage figures for 1972 were up—511 Chartered Librarians compared with 405 in 1970, and 3049 other staff compared with 2865. There was a slight overall improvement in the grading of posts.

Deposit Libraries for European Community Documents

After considering the list of libraries in the UK designated by the European Commission as deposit libraries, or as European Documentation Centres, the Council was of the opinion that the deposit libraries did not offer satisfactory coverage of the country, and that more public libraries should be designated. The Council decided to support applications from any library in the UK wishing to become a deposit library for European Community publications provided it was already a deposit library for UN and Unesco publications. They also decided to inform the Commission that certain large and well-established public libraries in the UK have the same functions as State libraries in some countries of Europe.

Conference

The eleventh Public Libraries Conference was held at Douglas, Isle of Man, from 17 to 20 September. The President (Mr K. C. Harrison, MBE) delivered his address at the Opening Session, which was followed by sessions on new management styles; public libraries as information centres; the contribution of the public library service to corporate planning; the cultural and other leisure activities of libraries; a new look at children's librarianship; and an address by the President of the American Library Association (Dr Jean E. Lowrie) on library services to culturally different peoples in the USA. The attendance was 398 personal and 271 affiliated members. Among the many visitors were five guests of the Association from Belgium, Denmark, France and the USA.

Anglo-Scandinavian Conference

The seventh Anglo-Scandinavian Public Libraries Conference was held at Rattvik, Sweden, from 23 to 27 May. Fifty-one people attended: nine from Denmark, six from Finland, one from Iceland, eight from Norway, twelve from Sweden, and fifteen from the United Kingdom. The British participants were the guests of the Swedish National Board of Education. The subjects discussed were the role of the public library in a modern cultural policy; the role of the librarian in multi-media centres; and new library buildings. The conference was preceded by a study tour of libraries.

University Libraries

University Library Expenditure

The sixth survey of university library expenditure, for the session 1971-72, was held in January, and it also included estimates of expenditure for the year 1972-73. An abstract of the recurrent expenditure and estimates was prepared and circulated to all university Librarians in May. It contains information on expenditure on books, periodicals, binding and bindery, audio-visual aids, photographic material and photo-copying, salaries and wages, and sundry items. Out of the 51 questionnaires circulated, 48 were returned. At the request of the Standing Conference of National and University Libraries, and with the agreement of university Librarians, copies of the completed questionnaires and of the abstracts were made available to Sconul.

University Library Staffing

The biennial census of university staff establishments for 1972-73 was conducted in March. At the time of going to press, returns were received from 40 universities and 57 other university institutions.

College of Education Libraries

A summary of the information obtained from the annual survey of college of education libraries, conducted in 1972 in association with the Department of Education and Science, was circulated to all colleges and institutes/schools of education in July. The figures indicated that, while the average bookstocks and book grants were still below the ATCDE/LA joint recommended standards of 1967, there had been some improvement over the previous year. Another survey was conducted in 1973 by the Department and the Association, and the information is being analysed.

A conference jointly organized by the Association of Teachers in Colleges and Departments of Education, the Library Association, and the Department of Education and Science was held at Windermere on 16 to 19 October. The programme included an address by Professor J. Black, pro Vice-Chancellor, University of Bath, on "Libraries and the learning process in higher education". Other sessions were devoted to the report of the DES-sponsored College of Education Libraries Research Project, library planning and buildings, higher education in the public sector, the significance of learning resources in the reorganization of higher education, and comparative standards and patterns of co-operation in higher education libraries. Another joint conference is being planned for Windermere in 1974.

School Libraries

Following the publication of the Association of Education Committees/National Book League annual recommendations for expenditure on books in schools, the Council offered help and advice in the preparation of recommended *per capita* figures for primary and secondary schools.

At the request of the Library Advisory Council for England, the Association has submitted its views on the staffing of school libraries.

Polytechnic Libraries

Meetings have been held throughout the year with representatives of the Council of Polytechnic Librarians to prepare a document comparing the practice in Polytechnic libraries with the Association's *Guide to planning requirements* (1968). It is hoped to publish a statement early in 1974.

The Government White Paper on Education

In June, the Council approved a statement on the Government's White Paper *Education: a framework for expansion*, the full text of which was published in the August issue of the *LA Record*. Copies of the statement were forwarded to the Department of Education and Science and other interested bodies.

Meeting with HM Inspectorate

A deputation met HM Chief Inspector for Education to express concern over the state of libraries in the various educational sectors, e.g. schools, colleges of further education and colleges of education. The deputation were told that a working party of the Inspectorate was currently examining the future of Higher and Further Education, and that representatives of the Library Association would be invited to join in the discussions on matters pertaining to library provision.

Academic Library Resource Centres

The Association held a one-day conference in February on "Learning resources and the role of the librarian". The purpose of the conference was to emphasize that the librarian has a vital role to play in this developing area. The chair was taken by Professor W. R. Niblett, CBE (Professor of Higher Education, University of London), and about 60 people attended. The speakers were Mr N. W. Beswick, Mr E. Ll. Evans (Department of Education and Science), Mr R. Fothergill and Mr D. J. Simpson.

In March, the Association published in the *Record* a general policy statement on library resource centres in schools, colleges and institutions of higher education. During the year representatives met the Association of Teachers in Technical Institutions to give the LA's views on its discussion document on educational technology.

The Association has been represented at meetings of the Schools Council to consider the best means of routeing enquiries about resource-based learning to the appropriate place.

Special Libraries

Following the conference on the Small Firms Information Service, held in November 1972, the Department of Trade and Industry decided to issue a pamphlet on existing library services to industry, and invited the Association to prepare the contents. This was done by Headquarters' staff in consultation with the Reference, Special and Information Section, and the document was submitted to the Department, who produced and distributed copies in September.

Early in the year a final report was received from the working party set up by the Special Libraries Committee to examine the need for future surveys of special libraries. The working party found that there was a need for further surveys, because they meet an expressed demand and are of particular value to industrial librarians in negotiating salary levels.

Following the report, arrangements continued for a fresh survey of members in special libraries. In order to gain a more representative picture of special librarianship it was decided to extend the scope of the survey to cover non-members of the Association.

By the end of 1973, the collection of data had been completed, and it is hoped to publish the results of the surveys during 1974.

The Association has continued to watch developments that might affect special librarians. Two examples were the action taken in connection with the British Standards Institution (reported in the August issue of *Liaison*) and the Royal Photographic Society (reported in the January issue of *Liaison*).

Libraries in Hospitals

The Libraries in Hospitals Sub-Committee continued to consider both the problems and the opportunities which may arise in the development of library and information services during the National Health Service reorganization.

In November a conference was organized for public and university librarians. It was designed to explore the ways in which university libraries and the re-organized local authority libraries can co-operate with the National Health Service authorities in the provision of library and information services to the National Health Service, with particular reference to services outside the hospital. It is hoped that this conference, which was well attended by 75 delegates, will be followed by a second conference in the Spring of 1974 for National Health Service administrators.

The interim revision of *Hospital libraries: recommended standards for libraries in hospitals—1972*, was published early in 1973. It was followed by the new pamphlet, *The chartered librarian in the hospital*, which is concerned with the employment of qualified librarians in the National Health Service and is directed at employers. This was given a wide circulation and has generated considerable interest from National Health Service administrators.

During 1973 a final report was received from the working party appointed to consider the need for short courses for qualified librarians in medical and health and welfare librarianship organized by the Association. The working party found that there were enough potentially interested persons to justify investigation into the organization and administration of courses. By the end

of 1973, discussions in this context were taking place with Aslib and the Association of British Library Schools.

The Report of the Committee on Nursing (the Briggs Report) was published in 1972. The Association felt that greater stress on library provision would have been welcome, not only with regard to the part libraries can play in a nurse's basic education, but also as to how it can help the nurse at every stage of her career. A statement of the Association's views was submitted to the Department of Health and Social Security. This statement was later published in *The book trolley*.

Education

Byelaw 7 Fellowship

The Council considered a number of names suggested by members for the award of Fellowship under Byelaw 7, which gives the Council power to elect as a Fellow any member who is the author of published work which, in the opinion of the Council, represents an outstanding contribution to librarianship or bibliography.

The following members were so elected in 1973:

Mr R. T. Bottle, BSc, PhD, FRIC, MIInfSc, for his publications in information science and librarianship, specifically in relation to biological and chemical literature.

Mr A. Gilchrist, ALA, for his contributions to the study of information retrieval (particularly in relation to the thesaurus) and to the study of systems in libraries.

Mr G. A. Glaister, MBE, ALA, for his *Glossary of the book* (Allen and Unwin), 1st ed. 1960, 2nd ed. 1973, which has become a standard work in the field of bibliography.

Mr A. W. McClellan, ALA, for essays and studies directed to the evolving of a systematic theory of book provision in public libraries.

Mr. J. S. G. Simmons, M.B.E., M.A., for his many books and articles in the field of bibliography.

Validation and Accreditation of Examinations

The Council approved proposals for changing the Assessing Panel of the Board of Assessors into an accrediting body, to match the gradual replacement of the Association's examinations by those validated by universities and the Council for National Academic Awards. The first step will be taken in 1974 when an external examiner from each school or department of library studies will be invited to join the Panel.

Examinations Overseas

The Council decided to phase out the holding of examinations overseas by the end of 1980. No new candidates for Part I will be accepted after September 1975 (for the Winter 1975 session), but candidates who have passed Part I up to and including Winter 1975 will continue to be accepted as candidates for Part II up to and including 1980. After 1980 no further examinations will be held regularly overseas, although the Board of Assessors will retain the power to hold such an examination in an exceptional case. This decision was taken because of the gradual reduction of the Association's commitment to external

examining; because the Council shares the view of Unesco that first qualifications are best provided for locally; and because it was noted that librarianship was becoming a graduate profession in most new countries, and that candidates proposing themselves for the Library Association examinations overseas were increasingly those not selected for professional education in their own countries. The recent results of overseas candidates have reflected this decline in standard of entrant.

Local Syllabus

A local syllabus for The Polytechnic of North London Department of Librarianship, based largely on the published syllabus of the Association for the Parts I and II examinations but with fewer and different choices, was approved to come into operation in 1974.

Internal Examining

Power to hold examinations internally on behalf of the Association has been granted to Robert Gordon's Institute, Aberdeen, for Part I, and to Brighton and Newcastle Polytechnics for Part II, and to Newcastle-on-Tyne Polytechnic for the Post-Graduate Professional Examination. All the Schools of Librarianship which still offer candidates for the Association's examinations are now examining internally on behalf of the Association, while two schools have their own local syllabus validated by the Association.

Loughborough School of Library and Information Studies

It was reported that a joint committee had been set up by the Loughborough University of Technology Department of Library and Information Studies and the Loughborough Technical College School of Librarianship to organize the teaching for both Library Association and University courses during a period of transition. The existing degrees of BA and BSc (which were already approved for exemption from the Association's final examination) would continue to be offered, together with a joint honours degree in education and library studies. These courses will not result in an overall increase in the number of annual enrolments, the growth in undergraduate numbers being at the expense of recruitment to the Association's examinations. Higher degrees offered are MLS (an advanced first qualification in library studies), MA and MSc (post-qualification higher degrees in library and information studies open to graduates with first qualifications in librarianship and to Fellows of the Library Association). Associates of the Library Association of some years' standing, even though they are not graduates, may be accepted for the MLS course. The joint honours degree was approved for exemption from the Final Examination of the Association.

Polytechnic of North London

The CNAA degree (three-year course) was successfully presented by The Polytechnic of North London for exemption from the Final Examination of the Association.

CNAA Diploma

The Liverpool Polytechnic Department of Library and Information Studies has replaced its course for the Post-Graduate Professional Examination by a CNAA post-graduate diploma, which has been approved by the Council for exemption from the Final Examination. This is the first such diploma validated by the CNAA, but it will shortly be followed by others.

Diploma in Higher Education

There has been much discussion of this new departure in British education, and the Council has been asked to pronounce upon it. The only guises in which it is likely to come within the purview of the Council are (a) as a pre-entry qualification for the ordinary series of examinations, and (b) as a special diploma in library studies. As to (a), since holders of a general Dip HE will already have met the Association's minimum GCE requirements, they will be welcome as candidates. As to (b), the first proposal for such a diploma (from Loughborough) is at present under consideration by the working party on the future of Library Association's qualifications.

Mature Registration

The following is the situation at the end of three years' working:

Enquiries received under the scheme since 1971	180
Applications received	27
Applications approved and registered	21
Applications rejected	6
Students active in 1973	8
Candidates failed or withdrawn	1

No member has yet qualified under this scheme.

Prizes

The winner of the Cawthorne Prize for the best results in the Part I Examination in 1973 was Miss S. K. Millen (Birmingham School of Librarianship).

The winner of the Sayers Memorial Prize for the best result in the 1973 examinations in the theory of classification was Miss J. Leeves (The Polytechnic of N. London and W. Sussex County Library).

Theses

The number of proposals of thesis subjects in 1973 was 32, of which 21 were approved. The number of completed theses submitted was 27, of which 26 were accepted.

Approval of Library Service

The system of personal responsibility for supervision of trainees, introduced in 1971, is working well, particularly in cases where trainees are employed in small units and have to look outside their own libraries for supervisors. Two cases were considered by the Council in which the supervising librarians felt unable conscientiously to recommend the acceptance of service. In one case it was retrospective pre-school service, and after investigation the Council felt able to

accept it. In the other case the supervisor gave evidence of the failure of the trainee to take advantage of facilities for self-development offered, through lack of application. The Council accepted the view of the supervising librarian and asked for a review of the situation at the end of three months.

Relations with the Department of Education and Science

Throughout the year close relations with the Department of Education and Science were maintained, and observers from both the Libraries Division and OSTI served on the Education Committee. A deputation from the committee was received by the Department, when a case was made out for support to schools offering facilities for enhancement of librarians' qualifications, and for financial support to students attending enhancement courses.

Examinations

	Numbers of candidates in 1973		
	Summer	*Winter*	*Totals*
Part I	568	237	805
Part II	773	492	1 265
Post-Graduate	205	44	249
	1 546	773	2 319

The total number of members who completed the Association's Part II and Post-Graduate Examinations was 989. In addition, a further 544 persons obtained diplomas and degrees in librarianship from other bodies whose qualifications give exemption from the Association's final examination. A total of 1 533 persons therefore completed the examination part of their qualifications compared with 1 417 in 1972.

Schools of Librarianship

A meeting between representatives of the schools of librarianship and of the Executive Committee took place in December. Discussion centred around movement towards a graduate profession and the relation of school admissions to the availability of posts.

Publications

New Books

The following new books and pamphlets were published:

The British Library and the AACR (A. H. Chaplin)
Examples illustrating A.A. Cataloguing Rules
Hospital libraries and work with the disabled, 2nd ed. (edited by Mona Going)
Books and periodicals for medical libraries, 4th ed.
Library buildings: 1972 issue (edited by Herbert Ward)

Guide to reference material, 3rd ed., volume 1 (edited by A. J. Walford)
Fiction bibliography, No. 17, *Sport*
Fiction bibliography, No. 18, *Doctors and Medicine*
Library Association Year Book, 1973
Students' handbook, 1973/4
Studies in comparative librarianship (Sevensma Prize essays)
What shall I read? (Sheila Mortimer)
Guide to current British journals, 2nd ed., 2 volumes
(edited by David Woodworth)
History of public libraries in Great Britain, 1845-1965 (T. Kelly)
Proceedings of the Public Libraries Conference, Douglas, 1973

There was also one title in the Association's Research Publications. This is reported on page 9.

Library and Information Science Abstracts

In response to many requests from subscribers it was decided to increase the coverage of *LISA* and the number of abstracts from 3000 to 4000 a year with effect from 1974. This increase will make necessary additional staff and a rise in the subscription.

Meeting of Editors of Professional Journals

A meeting of 44 editors of professional journals was held in June. Representatives of all types of journal were present, including both major national and small minority interest publications. The usefulness of the meeting was generally agreed and it is proposed to arrange further meetings biennially.

Promotion

Library Association publications have been exhibited at the Specialist Publishers Exhibition in Bloomsbury and the Liverpool European Library Summer School.

The Public Libraries Conference Exhibition at Douglas attracted 52 exhibitors.

H. D. Barry
Secretary

K. W. Humphreys
Chairman

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON JOINT COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES

British Records Council (*Mr P. Hepworth, MA, FRSA*). During the year it was necessary to double subscriptions to £2 for individual, £5 for institutional and £30 for life members and the usual meetings for editors and repairers were held. A useful publication, *Material for theses in some local record offices*, was available from Phillimore's at 40p, and £30 000 would be available for the purchase of documents from the Victoria and Albert Museum which might otherwise have been exported. Early in the year there was criticism of the 1973 Budget Statement that estate duty could be discharged by placing documents in museums but not in record offices. This point was satisfactorily clarified later. The Department of the Environment paper on the Local Government Act, 1972: "Local Authority Records", received the same general welcome from the BRA as from the Library Association; it was noted it did not embody any criticism of the work of librarians such as had appeared in a recent Society of Archivists document.

The Annual Report recorded 781 individual and 597 institutional members, and 1100 subscribers to *Archives*. Records preservation work was to be expedited by the provision of an additional archivist at Charterhouse.

There was some criticism of a project to collect manuscripts by the University of Warwick which had received a Leverhulme Research Grant of £37 000. However, the University agreed to deposit in local record offices any collections of local interest.

There were many valuable deposits of records, notably those of the brewers Truman, Hanbury, Buxton and Co. in the Greater London Record Office.

The Annual Conference was held on 6 and 7 December and was concerned mainly with the archives of immigrant communities and with those of the European communities.

British Standards Institution Committee—DPE/-/2. User Standards Consultative Committee for Data Processing (*Mr J. J. Eyre*). There were two meetings this year. Attention was drawn to two standards—ISO 2711 "Information Processing Interchange—Representations of Ordinal Dates", and a Draft for Development concerning the quality requirements for computer output in microfilm (COM). This is issued as DD 27: 1973.

Mr D. A. Sturt (UCL—Computer Centre) raised the matter of labels for magnetic tapes received from various organizations, as in the case of libraries. Despite BSS 4783: 1972 and the layout specification devised by the Committee of London Clearing Bankers, the matter seemed to require further investigation. University users of data processing are to be consulted about their experiences and possible additions to the label data.

British Standards Institution—Documentation Standards Committee (*Messrs K. A. Mallaber and M. Yelland, BA*). Neither the Documentation Standards Committee nor its programme planning panel met during 1973, and this lack of formal activity is perhaps a reflection of the gradual and successful bringing

to a close (through the publication of completed standards) of the large programme of documentation standards embarked upon in 1968. Further consideration is being given to proposed revisions or new work, and to supporting international work. Much standards work, however, is still in progress, and once again the Association's thanks are due to its many members who take an active interest and part in BSI's activities.

British Standards Institution—Technical Committee PHC/16: Microcopying (*Mr N. Green*). The following standards documents have been published: British Standard 1371: 1973. *35 mm. and 16 mm. microfilms, spools and reels.* This standard, as revised, covers all dimensions, arrangement of images, direction of winding film, etc. BSI DD27: 1973. Draft for development: *Quality requirements for computer output on microfilm* (*COM*). International Standard ISO 2708: 1973. *Transparent A6 size microfiche of variable division—image arrangements A and B.*

Editorials and articles in *BSI news* for 1973 have described the efforts which are made to correlate BS specifications to ISO and European standards. This programme has influenced the functioning of the main committee and its working groups. In particular, sub-committee 2 is pressing for publication of BS 4187 *Microfiches* (revision of this was completed early in 1973) and a similar ISO standard for microfiche of uniform division. This sub-committee will proceed to consider a standard for fiche using reduction ratios up to 48 : 1. It will also define terms used in describing component parts of microform readers.

New work relating to newspapers will be based on French proposals for symbols signifying "end of reel", "pages missing", etc.

Other working groups have prepared revisions of BS 1153, *Storage of microfilm*, and BS 4191, *Essential characteristics of microfilm readers*; publication is now awaited. Tests and discussions on image legibility and on diazo film quality will continue.

British Standard Institution—Technical Committee M/106: Reading aids (*Mrs J. M. Clarke and Miss S. Kenchington*). The committee last met in 1971; however, BS 5043: 1973 "Specification for Bookholders, magnifiers and prismatic spectacles for use as reading aids in hospitals and the home" was published on 24 December, 1973.

Commonwealth Library Association (*Mr K. C. Harrison, MBE*). Having been formed only towards the end of November 1972, the year 1973 saw the first full year of COMLA's activities. Two News Letters, one in April and one in October, were edited by the President, and the thanks of COMLA are due to the Library Association, which arranged the typing, duplication and circulation of these.

During the year the Canadian Library Association and the Fiji Library Association joined the 20 original members, and several libraries and library schools joined COMLA as Associate Members. Working parties under Paul Xuereb (Malta) and Harrison Bryan (Australia) continued operations through correspondence. Arrangements were made for a meeting of the COMLA Executive to be held in London in March 1974.

After the post had been advertised in all member countries, a Secretary was appointed and took up her duties on 1 September 1973. She is Mrs C. P. Fray, PO Box 534, Kingston, Jamaica, W.I. In October the President visited the Secretariat in Jamaica, later visiting Trinidad and Tobago, seeing many libraries, meeting many colleagues, and giving a number of addresses and lectures.

Hospital Library Services: Joint Committee St. John and Red Cross (*Mrs J. M. Clarke*). The only meeting of the St. John/Red Cross Hospital Library Sub-committee in 1973 took place in November. In a letter sent out in October the Chairman, Sir Arthur Bryant, said that in view of the fact that both he and the Director, Lt.-Colonel Sydenham, were retiring, the Joint Committee had decided it was the right time to reorganize the Hospital Library Sub-committee. The Sub-committee is to be smaller than in the past and will be composed of four members only, two from the Order of St. John and two from the British Red Cross Society, and one of the members from each body will be a member of the Joint Committee itself. It has been felt for some time that the Sub-committee was too large and it has become the practice to settle much of the business out of committee. It is hoped that co-opted members will agree to continue to serve in an advisory capacity without attending meetings unless specifically requested to do so.

In addition it is proposed to set up a small advisory body, composed of four County Organizers representing the Northern, Southern, Western and Eastern areas, to meet once a year, under the Director, prior to the Annual Conference, for the purpose of advising and discussing county and domestic matters.

The new Director is Miss M. Downing, MBE, formerly Librarian at Headquarters.

The only item of interest at the November meeting was the announcement that the DHSS had agreed to an increase in the capitation fee to £1.13, back dated to 1 October 1973.

International Federation of Library Associations (*Mr E. V. Corbett, MA, FRSA*). The theme of the 1973 Congress was "Universal Bibliographic Control". IFLA has adopted it as its major policy objective, which aims at the creation of a world-wide system for the exchange of bibliographic information, as follows: "to make universally and promptly available, in a form which is nationally acceptable, basic bibliographic data on all publications issued in all countries". The main requirements at the national level are firstly the existence of the necessary means to capture each new publication on publication (e.g. by legal deposit, or similar government regulations, and by voluntary deposit, etc.) and after that the means to establish the bibliographic record; in effect, the existence of a national bibliographic agency with the following functions:

(1) to establish the authoritative bibliographic record for each new publication;
(2) to produce a national bibliography appearing regularly;
(3) to produce and distribute these records in a standard physical form;
(4) to receive and distribute within its country similar records produced by other national bibliographic agencies; and
(5) to create, as circumstances permit, a retrospective national bibliography.

At the international level, the integration of the individual national bibliographic agencies to form the total system requires that:

(1) each national bibliographic agency is the organization responsible for establishing the authoritative bibliographic record of its own country; and
(2) international standards of recording for the physical form of the records be applied.

Dr Liebaers, the President, explained how IFLA proposes to deal with this problem. Its aim is to set up, in association with other organizations such as Unesco, AIE, FID, ISO, ICSU/AB, OAS, etc., a Central *ad hoc* UBC Committee which will also include representatives of IFLA sections and committees already contributing to the UBC programme. Following the recommendation of the Program Development Group, the IFLA Executive Board will appoint from the Central Committee a small Executive Committee charged with carrying out a programme of action approved by the Central Committee—this Executive Committee will initially be set up for a period of 3 years and its functions will include:

(1) co-ordination of all activity within IFLA directed at UBC;
(2) liaison with other organizations with simila. objectives;
(3) commissioning of particular projects and studies; and
(4) support of projects undertaken by other organizations.

The business session of the Congress was occupied firstly by a statement of the financial situation and an appeal to members for greatly increased subscriptions, secondly by consideration of a new structure for IFLA which it is hoped might materialize in 1975. Those interested should read the President's address in full but briefly a reorganization proposal is to be submitted at the 1974 meeting in Washington which will be the working document for the meeting the following year in Norway. It involves a severe reduction in the numbers of members attending the annual congress, restricted to members serving on the Board and committees of IFLA plus one delegate member from each Association. Such a meeting is envisaged as a policy-making and reporting medium. Original papers would not be delivered but would find a place in regional and specialized meetings of member groups.

It was with pleasure that the LA representatives heard the announcement that the election for three vacant offices of Vice-President had resulted in Mr Peter Havard-Williams being elected to one of these offices.

During the Conference our President presented the certificates of Honorary Vice-President of the Library Association to Dr H. Liebaers and Mrs Joyce Robinson, at an informal gathering attended by about 70 members and accompanying guests. This was a very pleasant occasion indeed at which Dr Humphreys introduced Dr Liebaers, and Frank Hogg likewise Mrs Robinson. Both made handsome speeches in return and it was a source of pleasure to the LA delegates that the honours bestowed were so much appreciated. A complete set of photographs of the occasion have been lodged with the Public Relations Officer should members like to see them.

International Association of Music Libraries (UK Branch) (*Mr L. W. Duck*). There have been some changes in the officers of the Branch following the death last year of Mr John H. Davies. The President is now Mr Brian L. Redfern, and the Vice-President (formerly designated Chairman) Mr H. F. J. Currell. A

number of sub-committees met to carry on the considerable work of organizing the 1973 Committee Meetings of the parent body (held this year in London), the continued publication of the Branch periodical *Brio* and other matters.

A proposal was received from the Audio Visual Group of the LA that the Branch should take over the responsibility for work being done in connection with the provision of multiple copies of music scores in the London area. A joint IAML/AVG sub-committee also considered the provision of this kind of material on a national scale.

Members of the Branch were able to get together on several occasions, events arranged by the Committee including visits to the EMI factory at Hayes, Chappell's the music publishers and the Royal Opera House.

National Book League (*Messrs K. C. Harrison, MBE, W. B. Stevenson and R. G. Surridge*). Preoccupation with the finances of the League has been the background of this year's work: it is to be hoped that the results of the Appeal launched in the autumn may ensure financial stability for the League.

In spite of this background, activities of the League have continued, and even to some extent broadened, with the NBL playing its part as a co-ordinating agent and as a pervasive influence not only in Britain, but abroad. Touring exhibitions have continued: in one quarter of the year alone, seventy-six of them were in circulation. The deputy director has acted as consultant in connection with three major book exhibitions, arranged at the Europalia festival in Brussels by the British Council.

Exhibitions have continued in Albemarle Street, with the policy of fewer and better exhibitions an undoubted success. The Cuala Press, the Eighteen Nineties, and the recent Children's Book Illustration being cases in point. Booklists continue to be published and to circulate widely. The major publication of the year was Robin Myers' *A bibliography of the English book trade*—a work of learning and authority, published by André Deutsch in association with the League.

Among the other varied activities of the NBL must be mentioned a series of poetry readings arranged at Headquarters and elsewhere: the administrative work connected with the Booker Prize and the John Llewellyn Rhys Award; the campaign against VAT on books; and the rights of translators.

National Committee of Regional Library Co-operation (*Messrs. G. E. Smith and A. G. D. White*). 1973 has seen the coming into being of the British Library, the assimilation of the National Central Library into the British Library Lending Division, the removal of its collections to Boston Spa, and agreement to terminate from 1 January 1974 the inter-regional subject coverage scheme in the light of the policy of the British Library to purchase all worthwhile British books.

The extension to other Regions of the LASER system of ISBN based computer produced microform union catalogues, local government reorganization and its implications for the Regions, have been kept under review with a particular concern for the needs of the users of the service.

National Council of Social Service—Standing Conference for Local History (*Mr P. Hepworth, MA, FRSA*). The principal meeting held during the year on 12 October concerned itself with the possibility of setting up a national local

history centre as it is felt that the National Council of Social Service has acted as the umbrella for the Standing Conference for many years, and that this body was becoming overloaded. In a document by Mr Robin Chaplin reference was made to the work of the Historical Association and of the Library Association but the great local variation in Local Authority history libraries was mentioned, particularly in the matter of collecting ephemera.

It was hoped that a national local history centre could be established in the provinces with a grant of £50 000 from one of the foundations.

Several of those present dissented from the idea of setting up a regional centre which would aim to collect the great mass of ephemera, many of which were on display at the Standing Conference's Annual Meeting, and said flatly that these should be available locally and that the Local Authority libraries were the only ones who would make any real attempt to collect them.

Largely as a result of a request from Mr Ken Miller, City Librarian of Stoke-on-Trent, your representative put forward a plan for systematic collection of all local material by the new Local Authorities (1972 Act) and the Standing Conference agreed to write to each one when it was set up. However, it was not felt there was any chance of securing an amendment in the Copyright Act to ensure that this type of material was deposited locally. Boston Spa was also mentioned as a location for the proposed Centre of Historical Studies, but it was not felt to be central enough.

The Annual Conference of the SCLH in December was a jubilee meeting lasting three days with international speakers.

Open University—Local Authorities Liaison Committee (*Mr S. H. Horrocks*). The Committee is a contact point for OU officials and representatives of local authorities. At its two meetings during the year the committee concerned itself with student grants and fees, summer school fees, course applications and local government reorganization. It is hoped that the latter will lead to a levelling up of student grants, which at present vary from authority to authority. No library matters of importance were discussed.

National Institute of Adult Education (*Mr J. N. Taylor*). As reported last year much of the work of the Institute and most of its forward planning has been concerned with the Russell Report—"Adult Education: a plan for development". This Report made its long overdue appearance at the end of March and, although less radical than many had hoped, the Report did advocate the doubling of public expenditure (and the number of students) within five years and so was welcomed as the best government report on the subject to be published in the first three months of 1973. The Institute mounted a campaign to draw attention and support for the Report and to bring pressure on the government to accept and implement the recommendations.

By the end of the year hopes of government action were beginning to fade and were extinguished with the announcement of cuts in public expenditure in December. Other more routine but valuable activities of the Institute have continued—publications, national and international co-operation and a woefully under-manned information service—but plans for the reorganization at the Institute have had to be placed in cold storage pending government decisions.

Open University—Advisory Council on Student Library Services (*Messrs D. J. Foskett, MA, S. H. Horrocks, G. E. Smith, R. Sturt, MA, G. W. Wheatley, FRSA, Dip FE*). The Committee were told that two radio and two television programmes instructing students in the use of libraries had been broadcast during the year. They were well received. The foundation stone of the new library building (The Jennie Lee Library) was laid.

The Committee recommended that library liaison officers should be nominated in all OU regions and this had been done. Although the committee welcomed this, they hoped that a full-time appointment of a library liaison officer could be made experimentally in one region. Much discussion also took place on the need to encourage the use of host university library facilities at summer schools.

Ranfurly Library Service (*Mr J. Dove, FRCO, ARCM, FRSA*). The 5th million book was sent in June 1973 after operating for 19 years and appreciation of Ranfurly flowed in from all parts of the world. Ascension Island has received books since 1967, some of which go to St. Helena. Australia's English Speaking Union Branch in Sydney, though small, was grateful, as was Leo Bradley from the British Honduras National Library Service who found the books of good quality. The Director of the British Solomon Islands remarked upon the close links between the Public Library Service, the Schools and Ranfurly, whilst Brunei, the Cameroons and the Falkland Islands wouldn't have books, otherwise. Similar expressions came from the Principal of Gambia's High School in Banjul, the General Mines Manager of the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation in Ghana, the Commissioner of Police in Nairobi and the Head of Khamis Secondary School on the Kenya Coast. The Director of the International Service Committee of the Rotary Club of Kuala Lumpur talked of children's books eagerly sought by the Schools, and other books sent to the smaller libraries set up by Rotary Clubs, many of which have now been taken over by the Community Councils. The Rotary Club of Singapore is proud to be a distributor and sent a cheque from its World Community Service Fund in appreciation. "You would be truly amazed at the tremendous demand," they write, and by courtesy of Indonesian Airways, they sent books to a University in Bali, collected originally by a Students Union Organization in London. The Chief Education Officer in Kingstown, St. Vincent, distributes books to hospitals and Youth Groups, as well as to schools and libraries, and rates Ranfurly as a positive influence in combating illiteracy. The British Embassy in Kinshasa, Republic of Zaire, reported that Sudanese and Zambian refugees had no other sources of reading material in their largely French-speaking country.

Ivy Hill, ex-Librarian of Castleford and now of the Ghana Library Board in Accra, completed a tour of 125 Secondary Schools and 73 Technical Colleges and stressed the desperate need for books there. A special collection was sent to Quillon, India, where a new public library was being built on land given by the Government, estimated to cost 15 lakhs (£270 000).

And Roderick Cave from the University of the West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica, summed it all up, saying: "I'm most grateful for the help you are giving to Spencer Edwards in getting his little library going in Grenada. People moan about Ranfurly in the most absurd way. I think its services are of immense value."

After all this, you will think I am trying to sell it. Not at all, but if proof were needed of its value, then here it is and I add the Association's congratulations to a magnanimous Service run on a shoe-string.

Seafarers' Education Service (*Mr C. W. Black, MA*). Two "firsts" were achieved by the College of the Sea, the educational department of the Seafarers Education Service, in 1973: the first merchant seafarer to gain an Open University degree proved to be Chief Engineer G. Christian; the first merchant seafarer to receive an Arts Council grant as a promising writer is Greaser L. Madigan, author of *Jackarandy*. Both have been in touch with the College for many years. Also in 1973 the SES film *Artist at Sea*, made by the Service's seafaring art tutor Peter Knox on a minimum budget, was commended to schools, colleges and general audiences by "Audio Visual" and awarded three stars.

The Service's libraries aboard the school-cruise ships *Nevasa* and *Uganda* have long been much admired. In 1973 P & O authorized the Service to supply passenger libraries to all its other passenger ships and these libraries are the largest afloat.

P & O's late chairman and the Service's president, Sir Donald Anderson, whose death is a serious loss to the SES, left the Service £1000 in his will, a sum which was doubled by an anonymous admirer. The income will help to maintain the Service's special library of nautical books at its London headquarters, now designated "The Sir Donald Anderson Library".

During the year the Service published the 4th edition of *Introduction to the Merchant Navy* (50p), the standard work in its field. The manuscript for a new edition of *Spare Time at Sea* was also completed and has now been published (Spring, 1974) by Maritime-Stanford at £2.50.

The Service's main task continues to be the provision of a first-class library service to the Merchant Navy, a work which those ashore may see in a new light in the current economic situation. As one oil-tanker seafarer put it in 1973: "It goes without saying that without your Service life would be even more tedious, especially on these long round-the-Cape runs, and it is greatly appreciated by all concerned".

Society of Indexers (*Mr K. G. B. Bakewell*). Meetings were held during the year on copyright in indexes and on indexing of BBC sound archives. Following the Annual General Meeting, held in May, Mr John L. Thornton spoke on "The Perfect Index". The Society's journal, *The indexer*, continued to be well received. Among topics discussed in Council during 1973 were the question of fees for indexing, relations between indexers and publishers, and increased publicity for the Society and its activities. A correspondence course, prepared by a member of the Society, has now been introduced by the Rapid Results College; approximately 30 students are understood to have enrolled for the course, including 11 from Australia. Admission to the Society's Register of Indexers is still dependent on the submission of completed indexes to the Board of Assessors. In April 1973 there were 98 Registered Indexers, and during 1972/73 76 authors or publishers asked the Society to recommend indexers for specific works, mainly in the field of science and technology. The Society has again been able to hold many of its Council and other meetings at the Library Association and gratefully acknowledges this assistance.

OBITUARY

BENNET.—Mr G. C. W. Bennet, formerly Librarian of Sevenoaks.

BOLTON.—On 10 April 1973, Mr T. Bolton, FLA, Borough Librarian of Ashton-under-Lyne.

BRAND.—On 24 January 1973, Mr P. J. W. Brand, FLA, Burgh Librarian, Clydebank.

BUDGE.—On 7 October 1973, Mr H. D. Budge, FLA, County Librarian of Warwickshire.

BROWNING.—Mr A. E. Browning, Librarian, State Library of Tasmania.

BUSHNELL.—On 12 August 1973, Mr G. H. Bushnell, FLA, formerly Librarian, St. Andrews University.

CAMPBELL.—Miss J. M. Campbell, Assistant Librarian, Glasgow University.

CHAMBERLAIN.—On 22 April 1973, Mr W. J. Chamberlain, formerly Borough Librarian of Ilford.

DAVIES.—On 30 January 1973, Mrs J. M. I. Davies (*née* Sturgis), ALA, Acting Reference Librarian, Rochester Public Libraries.

DOHERTY.—On 3 January 1973, Mr R. Doherty, MBE, formerly City Librarian of York.

DYSON.—On 3 November 1973, Mrs A. V. Dyson, BA, FLA, Librarian, Eastbourne College of Education.

GASKIN.—On 17 June 1973, Mr L. J. P. Gaskin, FLA, formerly Librarian and Secretary, Horniman Museum.

GIVEN.—Miss G. Given, ALA, formerly County Librarian, Londonderry.

HAMPTON.—Mr. J. Hampton, ALA, Reference Librarian, Lanarkshire County Library.

HARMER.—On 21 April 1973, Mr D. H. Harmer, FLA, formerly Deputy Librarian, Hillingdon Public Libraries.

HOPKINS.—On 12 November 1973, Mr K. Hopkins, AMBIM, FLA, Librarian, Commercial and Social Sciences Library, Liverpool Public Libraries.

JOHNSON.—Mr E. I. Johnson, ALA, Borough Librarian, Ellesmere Port.

KLEC-PILEWSKI.—On 2 November 1973, Mr B. Klec-Pilewski, ALA, Cataloguer, The Library Association Library.

MACLEOD.—On 4 August 1973, Mr R. D. Macleod, FLA, formerly Library Consultant to W. & R. Holmes.

MALLABURN.—On 3 September 1973, Mr R. S. Mallaburn, ALA, Chief Cataloguer and Librarian in charge of Bibliographical Services, Newcastle-upon-Tyne City Libraries.

PATRICK.—On 16 June 1973, Mr L. G. Patrick, FLA, Principal Lecturer, College of Librarianship Wales.

PHILLIPS.—Mr W. A. Phillips, FLA, Sefton, Church Lane, Mablethorpe, Lancs.

RABLEN.—Mr A. W. Rablen, MA, Dip Ed, Librarian, Alderman Newtons Boys School, Leicester.

ROUGH.—On 5 May 1973, Miss H. K. Rough, ALA, Assistant County Librarian, Clackmannan County.

ROWLINSON.—Mr D. Rowlinson, ALA, Librarian, Brotton and Skelton Branch, N. Riding County Library.

SANFORD.—On 20 August 1973, Mr W. G. Sanford, formerly County Librarian of East Suffolk.

SHERWIN.—Mr P. Sherwin, FLA, Chief Librarian, Stretford Public Library.

SMITH.—On 13 August 1973, Mr R. F. Smith, FLA, Chief Assistant, Lincoln City Libraries.

SREAD.—On 28 April 1973, Mr R. W. Sread, District Librarian, Cleethorpes, Lindsey and Holland County Library.

TAN.—On 2 November 1973, Miss K. K. Tan, ALA, Assistant, National Library, Singapore.

TAYLOR.—On 5 October 1973, Mr J. A. Taylor, BA, ALA, Assistant Librarian, University College of Wales, Aberystwyth.

TRUMPER.—On 20 August 1973, Mrs M. H. Trumper (*née* Thornton), JP, ALA, 27 Kelmscott Road, Harborne, Birmingham.

WHITEHEAD.—Mr H. Whitehead, ALA, Chief Cataloguer, W. Riding County Library.

WOLFENDEN.—Mrs A. M. Wolfenden (*née* Greenfield), ALA, 1 Coulter Road, Greenhill, Herne Bay, Kent.

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